

VALLEY LIFE: LAUNCH 18

the VALLEY STAR

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OPINION: SPORTS PROTESTS

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GradGuru rewards students with gift cards

GradGuru app helps students stay on-track while rewarding them with gift cards.

MONSERRAT SOLIS
CO-EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Monarchs can take advantage of the free app GradGuru to stay on track and meet deadlines while earning gift cards – college has never been more rewarding.

The Los Angeles Community College District adopted GradGuru, an award-winning app that launched in 2012, to help students overcome barriers to finishing community college. The app advertises higher transfer rates and generally a successful college life by rewarding students who utilize school resources.

Brenda Chavez, a criminal justice major at Valley said she's open to downloading the app and stated, "the app would be helpful and realistically I would use it." Chavez looks to transfer in the next school year.

The app offers services like customizing notifications by selecting preferred events, deadlines and tips to manage calendar events, targeting specific deadlines like financial aid, and tips to stay on-track. This can

More than 40,000 students have GradGuru; 70 percent recommended the app to others.

serve as a reminder for students who struggle with organization or time management.

A popular feature is the rewards section. Checking off milestones collects points to earn gift cards by meeting with advisors, making an education plan, and keeping a 3.5 GPA. By including a rewards systems, the app hopes to increase school participation and transfer rates.

Although the program seems foolproof, it all depends on downloaders and how they use the app. According to GradGuru.org, there are more than 40,000 students on the app with 65 percent saying the deadlines are being met and 70 percent saying they have recommended it to friends. With support from the Gates Foundation, ECMC Foundation, and the James Irvine Foundation, the app can surely help students.

The mobile app asks for students' ID, college name, and quick questions about educational goals when signing up. The screen opens up to a calendar showing all events and deadlines; from there, students can decide what information they want to see on their dash. There are also no data charges, and GradGuru is available to download in the Google Play and the Apple App stores.

Bungalows blight on campus

Delays continue to halt the removal of the antiquated buildings on campus.

SOLOMON SMITH
POLITICAL NEWS EDITOR

New and returning Valley College students enjoy the modern design of the Allied Health and Sciences Center, the comfort of the Community Services Building and the soon to be complete Valley Academic and Cultural Center, while the asbestos-riddled, fenced-in bungalows remain a stark reminder of how much further the campus has to go.

When asked about the delays, Vice President of Administrative Services Mike Lee pointed to the convoluted political process.

"I've been here four years and, in that time, we've had four buildings go up," said Lee. "It takes time to implement a master plan."

The original campus itself was built in three phases, taking almost 20 years to complete, according to the LAVC History webpage. Originally built in the early 1950s, the blocky structures were intended to be a temporary solution for a growing student body but soon became permanent. Their removal was revisited with Proposition A, which was a plan to rebuild and modernize the LACCD back in 2001. Initially, their destruction was delayed as a matter of mismanagement resulting in a five-year building moratorium starting in 2011, according to the Los Angeles Times. The delay was also partly due to the price of



VALLEY STAR | MICKIE SHAW

BUNGALOWS- Students walk past gated buildings that have yet to be demolished.

removal sky-rocketing with the discovery of massive amounts of asbestos, raising the cost to remove some of the buildings to almost \$100,000 according to Erika Endrijonas, President of Valley.

"At this point there's not a hard date right now."

- Tom Lopez

The buildings can also cause safety concerns. In recent

years, the campus's Sheriff's Department has had to deal with several calls about the buildings. During inclement weather, the bungalows had become a safe space for many seeking shelter, and several incidents, from sleeping on campus to individuals climbing to the roof, were reported. A fence has been added around the perimeter, a visible band-aid to the problem.

"It was a response to the overall safety of the campus and preparing for demolition," according to Lee.

The bungalows are set to

be removed in three phases, according to Tom Lopez, the director of facilities, with each phase having an estimated cost of \$4.1 million. Although the money is budgeted, unfinished water reclamation projects, and committee approvals continue to cause delays. All of these issues do not amount to an actual timeline for destruction, and when pressed, no one has any real answers about when it will happen.

"At this point there's not a hard date right now," said Lopez.



SCREENSHOT | WASHINGTON EXAMINER

RESIGN- Seth Frotman abdicated his position as CFPB ombudsman in protest of his agency's protection of financial companies.

CFPB Ombudsman Seth Frotman resigns position

The CFPB student loan ombudsman left his position and accused his agency of forsaking borrowers.

MICKIE SHAW
MULTIMEDIA EDITOR

In a scathing resignation letter, the government student loan watch-dog accused the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau and his boss of betraying student borrowers and protecting the very lenders who are preying on "vulnerable" families.

Seth Frotman, the CFPB's student loan ombudsman, quit his job after seven years in protest over Acting Director Mick Mulvaney's politicization of the agency and no longer defending borrowers from bank fraud.

"The Bureau is now content doing the bare minimum for them while simultaneously going above and beyond to protect the interests of the

biggest financial companies in America," Frotman wrote to Mulvaney. "The Bureau has abandoned the very consumers it is tasked by Congress with protecting."

Financial aid students at Valley College could be affected by the CFPB's actions.

"The recent resignation of top Student Loan Official (Seth Frotman) is noteworthy as loan regulations and borrowers' rights changes can affect students for a significant portion of their lives. I have learned that modifications to student aid policy typically reflects the values of whoever is in control of the Oval Office," LAVC Financial Aid Manager, Vernon Bridges said.

Mulvaney became acting director in November. Frotman said that under Mulvaney's ten-

ure, drastic bureau changes have eroded the agency's mandate to shield students and service members from bad lenders.

The agency's "sweeping" changes, Frotman wrote, included: "Undercutting enforcement of the law, undermining the bureau's independence and shielding bad actors from scrutiny."

Frotman said the regulator has reneged on its promise to hold the loan and for-profit college industries accountable.

"For example ... when new evidence came to light showing that the nation's largest banks were ripping off students on campuses across the country by saddling them with legally dubious account fees," Frotman wrote. "Bureau leadership suppressed the publication of a report pre-

pared by Bureau staff."

Frotman lambasted Mulvaney for his support of "the misguided goals of the Trump administration" and hurting families victimized by for-profit schools.

"The American Dream is under siege," Frotman wrote.

Forty-four million Americans have student loan debts worth over 1.5 trillion dollars.

The CFPB is the financial regulator charged with protecting student loan borrowers from unethical lenders and making the lenders accountable to the law. Its has returned \$750 million to victims of lenders who preyed on millions of customers.

A New York Times request for comment by the Bureau at the time of the resignation was

IMPORTANT DATES

September 28

Deadline to petition for Pass/No-Pass

November 12

Campus closed for Veterans Day

November 18

Last Day to Drop Classes with a "W"

ON CAMPUS

September 13

UCLA Admissions Representative will be available at the Career/Transfer Center from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

September 14

Implicit Bias Workshop with special guest Jerry Kang from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Campus Center (CC) Monarch Hall.

September 16

The Earth Science Department and the Valley College Astronomy is offering a "InSight: Mission to Mars" with special guest Dr. Sharon Kedar at 7:45 p.m. in the Planetarium.

September 17

American Red Cross Blood Drive from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Campus Center (CC) Monarch Hall.

These features and more can be found in full @ www.thevalleystar.com

THE ISSUE

Student Loans

According to Student Loan Hero, about 40 percent of the \$1 trillion student loan debt was used to finance graduate and professional degrees.

VALLEY LIFE

Welcome Week starts semester with lively energy

Valley College gets the school year started with vibrant energy.

GABRIEL ARIZON
CO-EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Offering free food, live music and a chance to join one of the many campus clubs, Valley College used the first week of school to welcome new and returning students.

From Aug. 28 to 30, Valley kicked off the 2018-2019 school year with Welcome Week: three days where the Valley community connected students with clubs and campus resources. The first day was "Party with the President," where college president Erika Endrijonas welcomed the students to the new school year.

The day featured a live band, La Verdad, that played salsa music at the event. Over 15 different clubs and groups showed up at the Student Union Plaza, each encouraging students to become potential new members.

"In the past, Welcome Week was more about workshops and how to prepare for college, but we had other programs during the summer that do that for students," Student Engagement Coordinator and event planner Raquel Sanchez said. "So, let's have an event that's fun. Let's do something that's celebratory and that you can come in and participate."

"I think we tried to publicize [Welcome Week] as much as we can this year."

- Brandon Villarreal

With plenty of students interested in the vibrant music and free food, it also meant a greater chance for the clubs in

attendance to meet potential recruits.

Cole Castine, a member of the Valley Collegiate Players, said, "we had a lot of people interested in theater, so I'm pretty excited. I've never had turnout like this go on."

The Tau Alpha Epsilon Honor Society, which lost its charter due to a lack of members, is hopeful that new blood can help them regain their status.

"If an organization lost their charter for two years ... we would lose our money," vice president Charmaine Cram said.

The next day had a rally at Monarch Square to show school spirit. The event was smaller in scale with less participation. The last day was the Student Resource Fair. Ten different resource centers around the campus gathered in Monarch Square to provide students with



VALLEY STAR | GABRIEL ARIZON

CLUBS- Students gather in the Student Union Plaza to get information on school clubs.

information about financial aid, health and psychological issues.

The ASU was present throughout Welcome Week, looking for students who are interested in student government. Some of the vacant positions with ASU include vice president, social media commissioner, parliamentary officer and others.

"I think we tried to publicize [Welcome Week] as much as we can this year. I think it made a big difference compared to years' past," Commissioner of Health and Safety Concerns, Brandon Villarreal said.

President Endrijonas appeared happy with the three-day event, and thinks the new school year is off to a great start.

"I'm really pleased with what I see and I love the energy," she said. "I love to see students out here because at the end of day, when I hear about a student's success and its [due to] activities like this, it helps our students to be successful."

Exhibit displays student art

LAUNCH 18 art exhibition shows off what monarchs are made of.

MONSERRAT SOLIS
CO-EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Valley College's Art Gallery kicks off the Fall semester with the LAUNCH 18 art exhibition curated around student pieces leading to the semesters upcoming interactive show.

The Art Gallery hosts their first event of the school year by welcoming students and visitors to Launch 18, an annual program displaying artwork in the art department from over 250 student submission dwindled down to around 50 works selected by local artist and juror, Devon Oder. With interesting art pieces like Dauilo Caluma's wood and rose sculpture to Bianca Alpizar's surreal oil painting and Mariyn Martin's Newsprint drawing, Valley showcases their best with LAUNCH 18. Afterwards, a semester long project by artist Karl Burkheimer begins.

Artists show there hard

work through the semester by having their pieces chosen by the faculty elected juror. This show is open to the public and equally initiates an art conversation in the Valley. Art hanging from the walls and around the showroom allow visitors to view life through the pieces. The exhibit also welcomes artists into the art world by introducing them to a selection process.

Jenene Nagy, the assistant professor of Art and Gallery director at Valley describes LAUNCH 18 as a showcase for students' work created in and for the art department classes and a starting point for young artists' first professionalized experience. Introducing jurors, local art professionals, gives students submitting their art the essence and introduction to a professional network.

Students and art enthusiasts can look forward to an interactive art show by Burkheimer, chair of the graduate program

at Oregon College of Art and Craft, starting with a reception on Sept. 19 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.. The event will offer snacks, a meet and greet with the artist, and a first look at the project.

Burkheimer's first phase involves architectural interventions inviting visitors to engage and mark directly on his work wherein a response by the artist is followed, this will continue for a few weeks. Essentially starting with a blank canvas and at the end creating a unique art piece.

Artists can submit art for future projects during the spring semester when the gallery announces open entry on their website at lava.edu/artgallery.aspx. Following two days where students can present their works to the gallery. Submission is free and all artwork is accepted for submission.

To stay up to date on all the upcoming events visit their website or Instagram @lavcar-gallery.



VALLEY STAR | MONSERRAT SOLIS

ART- Students observing the pieces on display at the Launch 18 exhibit.

BlackKlansman looks back at racial divide

Spike Lee brings present day issues to light with a true story of an American Hero.

DEVON SMITH
STAFF WRITER

The 2018 film directed by Spike Lee, *BlacKkKlansman* shows a continuing race war between African Americans, police, and the secret society known as the Ku Klux Klan portrayed in 1979.

The film serves as educational and can come off as uncomfortable for some. As the dark history of segregation and inequality shine through, comedy is subtly sprinkled to lessen the realistic situations and encounters that are shown in the film. But it does not take away from the real-life situations and harm people of color faced.

The film details the risky adventure of the first African-American detective, Ron Stallworth played by John David Washington, to serve in

the Colorado Springs Police Department. Eager to set a good first impression, as well as sparking a difference, deciding to take on an undercover mission. This mission to infiltrate the KKK and get a better understanding at what happens inside the minds of the Klansmen. His Caucasian colleague Flip, played by Adam Driver, is his partner for the investigation. The plan is carried on as Ron speaks on the phone with the KKK and Flip being the face of the operation.

David Washington and Driver excelled in their roles exceptionally well with the ability to perfectly adapt to the powerful scenes with strong messages, as well as the humorous and lighthearted scenes. Both characters balancing undercover police work befriending the notorious KKK. The antagonist, Topher Grace, was stellar in his

role as the former Grand Wizard of the KKK, David Duke.

The dialogue familiarizes the viewer to present day, even though it took place 39 years ago. There is a scene where Ron talks to a Klan squad leader, and Ron's face shows the pain when listening to racist insults, and having to agree for the sake of the mission. The plot is straight forward for all races, which is the point of a deep and sensitive film.

As the film progresses, Ron begins seeing the change he could bring with this undercover job. The character development of the protagonist is a powerful and meaningful towards the bigger picture.

This film is definitely worth seeing. The on-screen representation acknowledges the topic of race and righteousness that takes this film to the top.



PHOTO COURTESY BY | FOCUS FEATURES

MOVIE- John David Washington plays a police officer infiltrating a white supremacist group.

OPINION

3

Sunshine or gunshine state

Florida needs to tighten its loose gun law restrictions due to reoccurring school shootings.

JESSICA AVALANGE
ONLINE EDITOR

In light of the most recent shooting in Jacksonville that left two people dead and 11 wounded at a video-game tournament, it is time that Florida passes stricter gun laws.

"Since the Orlando shooting there have been 87 shootings within a three-mile radius and 392 shootings within a 15-mile radius around the nightclub," according to the New York Times article, "On an Average Day, 96 Americans Die by Firearms."

Florida gun laws make owning a gun simple. In fact, the state issues guns to residents and non-residents. There are no requirements for background checks on private gun sales or registered firearms. Legally, a person may carry a gun in vehicles, state parks and restaurants. Guns do not need to be registered, and a permit is not required for purchase. License applications can be filed at convenience stores, and there are no restrictions on magazine size.

It is no surprise that another mass shooting took place in Florida on Aug. 26, and they

need to follow in the footsteps of California Legislation. California's new bills, waiting Gov. Jerry Brown's signature, make it difficult for potentially dangerous people to purchase guns by putting a lifetime ban on convicted felons of misdemeanors, domestic violence as well as other restrictions. The

"On an average day 96 Americans die by firearms."

last bill would require California gun owners to take eight hours of instruction and pass a live fire arm test.

Florida Gov. Rick Scott signed a law named after Marjory Stoneman Douglas High school in Parkland after a former student opened fire and killed 17 students. The law raised the minimum age to purchase a firearm from 18 to 21 and extended the waiting period to three days. Although this was an aggressive approach, more

action needs to be done.

The NRA filed a lawsuit in Federal District Court, arguing that Florida's age restriction was a violation of the Second Amendment and the 14th Amendment's guarantee of equal protection.

The NRA claims that a 20-year-old single mother living alone should be able to purchase a firearm to protect herself. It is absurd to take advantage of a potentially vulnerable situation and say that a gun will solve the issue.

This is another shooting that will make headlines for a short period of time and then simply be added to the list of Florida shootings. While the victims of Pulse nightclub, Parkland and Fort Lauderdale airport shooting will never be forgotten, frequent mass shootings get unfairly lost in the numbers. Floridians sweep these issues under the rug because residents would rather own guns than keep their citizens safe. Guns do not need to be banned but changes need to be made to the process of purchasing a gun.

Florida has a serious gun violence problem and when it comes to horrific acts of violence this is just the beginning.



FLICKR | TEKNORAT

Guns- Florida allows residents and non-residents to own guns.

One Way or Another: One question, two opposing viewpoints

Players kneel down to stand up to police brutality

Kneeling during National Anthem in the 2018-2019 NFL season resurfaces again.

VICENTE VITELA
SPORTS EDITOR

Protests are statements or actions expressing their disapproval of a certain issue and in the sports world, players are choosing to use their voice, to promote equality for all.

Many high-profile athletes receive criticism over the decisions they make in games which can range anywhere from a wrong pitch, to a questionable pass. However, with the 2018 NFL season right around the corner, the focus at the start of the season will be less on what the players do during the game, instead on what they do before the game. Most notably, on the decision to stand, kneel, or simply not appear for the National Anthem.

If you ask me, it would be an understatement for people to say that athletes should just do what they're paid to do, athletes are not only people we cheer for, but are in some ways ambassadors, especially to the younger generation. The idea that sports protests are negative would be incorrect. In fact, they are doing what they are intended to which is shed light on a pressing issue.

What started back in 2016 as a questionable decision by Colin Kaepernick, who chose to kneel during the singing of the national anthem, sparked a controversy that has reached heights as high as The White House. Kaepernick's decision was ignited by African Americans being killed by police.

This decision to kneel received with mixed reactions, with people supporting his decision, and others thinking it was both outrageous and disrespectful to people who have served our country.

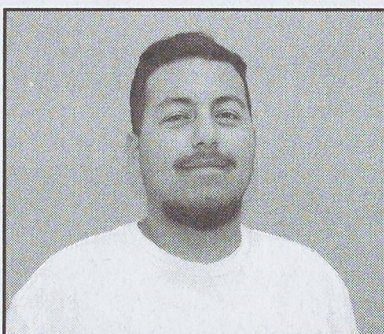
One thing that seems to get lost in all the madness, was the message he was trying to promote. Kaepernick was trying to promote a stance against police brutality, which seems to have resurfaced lately, and chose to send his message via one of the most watched sports in the United States. In fact, in United States in 2015, over 31 billion hours of TV were spent watching sports according to statista.com.

With one of the most notable sports protests taking place during the 1968 Olympics when athletes Tommie Smith and John Carlos raised their fists in the air with black gloves to promote human rights, protests and sports are no stranger to one another.

In my opinion, this makes sports open to all kinds of promotions whether it be ones they agree with or disagree with. In this case, the decision to promote equal rights for all is one that I can approve because the facts are there to prove it.



Savannah Simmons - Second-year writer at the Valley Star, excited to be the Opinion Editor.



Vicente Vitela- Sports Editor and Junior at Valley College.

EDITORS NOTE

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Silent protests on field not loud enough for some

Athletes may kneel to make a statement, but a stronger stance should be taken.

SAVANNAH SIMMONS
OPINION EDITOR

With the NFL season starting up again, players should look to speaking out about the issue of police brutality and leave their silent protest of kneeling during the National Anthem behind.

Kneeling during the National Anthem was started in 2016 by Colin Kaepernick, formerly of the San Francisco 49ers, with the intent to shed light on racial injustices and police brutality.

The silent protest continues to demonstrate not only by professional athletes but those at the college and high school levels as well. With the act spun into being "disrespectful," as President Donald Trump, said it is time for athletes to come up with a new plan of action.

"Two dozen NFL players continue to kneel during the National Anthem, showing total disrespect to our Flag & Country," tweeted Trump. "No leadership in NFL!"

Kneeling has been overlooked by the football fans and the country as people are more focused on the idea that these athletes are "disrespecting the flag" when that is not the goal. The intention is to start a conversation about what is happening in America but has missed the target as people are more angered by the "disrespect" and are focusing on ways to stop the kneeling, not really talking about the social issues at all.

"We chose to kneel because

it's a respectful gesture," Kaepernick's teammate Eric Reid told The New York Times. "I remember thinking our posture was like a flag flown at half-mast to mark a tragedy."

It is sad that people have missed or decided to ignore what the protest is all about but since they have, athletes should focus on using their voices and platforms to speak up about the issues involving police brutality and possibly even going out and participating in the rallies and demonstrations being held across the country. Since their silent protests have gone awry, they must find a way to continue their journey in getting attention for the issues they feel so strongly about.

"We spoke at length about many of the issues that face our community, including systemic oppression against people of color, police brutality and the criminal justice system," said San Francisco 49er Reid. "We also discussed how we could use our platform, provided to us by being professional athletes in the NFL, to speak for those who are voiceless."

The people that the athletes have reached with their message should do the same and make moves to solve the issue and speak out against the violence, not rely on the kneeling protest to be what is going to rally more people to take a stance on the issue.

The Valley Star

EDITORS-IN-CHIEF
GABRIEL ARIZON
MONSERRAT SOLIS

POLITICAL EDITOR
SOLOMON SMITH

NEWS EDITOR
MEGAN JACKSON

OPINION EDITOR
SAVANNAH SIMMONS

SPORTS EDITOR
VICENTE VITELA

ONLINE EDITOR
JESSICA AVALANGE

MULTIMEDIA EDITOR
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CESAR MARTINEZ
LEE VILLANUEVA
BAHNAN YAMIN
ERIKA ZUNIGA

PHOTOGRAPHERS
SOLOMON SMITH

ADVISERS
BILL DAUBER
ROD LYONS

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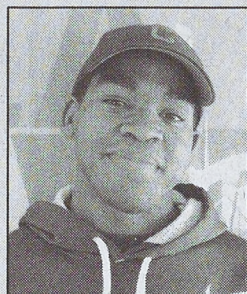
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VALLEY VIEW

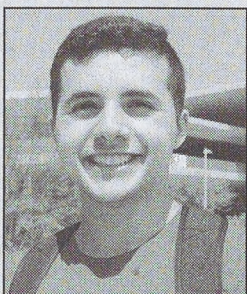
HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE CONSEQUENCES THE NFL HAS FOR KNEELING DURING THE NATIONAL ANTHEM?



"The NFL should let it happen; they shouldn't overreact. You don't have to kneel if you don't want to, so I think they should let it go."
-JOHNATHAN MCGREW, CRIMINAL JUSTICE MAJOR



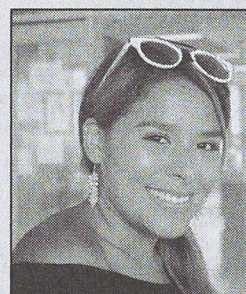
"My cousin is in the military so I get when he says it's disrespectful, so I guess that's what I think about it."
-CHELSEA GOMEZ, NURSING



"They have the right to oppose, it's free speech."
-TIGAN AVETISYAN, BUSINESS MANAGEMENT



"I think they should let them express how they feel because it's clearly for a good cause. I don't think they should suspend players for kneeling."
-GIO NAVARR, KINESOLOGY



"I think no matter what they are still going to stick by Colin. I don't see anything wrong with it."
-NATALIE ESCOBAR, COMMUNICATIONS

TEXT BY LEONIDA BONYO AND ERIKA ZUNIGA PHOTOS BY MICKIE SHAW

SPORTS

Playing football at Valley College, there's an app for that

Second-year head coach Matt White uses technology to help keep his players get ahead of the competition.



PHOTO COURTESY OF I NEIL G. PHILLIPS

Here comes the Judd- Kalawaia Judd rushes for a score agianst Allen Hancock College in a game the Monarch dropped 16-26.

JOSEPH GONZALES
STAFF WRITER

Successful football teams feature solid offenses, defenses, and special teams. The Valley College football team added QR codes and Kahoot! to their recipe for success.

In the past three years, the Monarchs have compiled a 24-8 record with back-to-back championships in 2015 and 2016. However, last year, the Monarchs stumbled to a 4-6 mark and missed the playoffs. Second-year head coach Matt White is looking to rebound this season, hoping that technology will improve the team's performance.

White requires his players to download the QR scanner app and Kahoot!, a learning app that is used in the classroom and on the field. White uses this technology to provide motivational

quotes, administer weekly quizzes and reinforce the playbook.

"It helps with hitting the kids at different angles," White said. "Everyone learns differently and processes information differently from one another. I discovered it while being a fifth grade teacher. I would use these things to help my students so naturally, it carried over into coaching."

The players seem to appreciate the way White communicates with his players in order to help them prepare.

"The QR codes is helpful especially for the coaches to know how their players are doing that week," sophomore Brenden Cotilla-Delgado said. "We use it as an attendance taker and as a questionnaire that consists of daily practice challenges for the team and some motivational quotes."

Valley football players have to take a Kahoot! quiz once

a week to review what they learned. These weekly quizzes can include trivia about the other team, weather predictions, new plays, short films from previous years' games against opposing teams and lessons learned from practices.

"Kahoot! is super fun for the team. The coaches put some cool questions for the players to answer and compete with each other. It's a fun method we use to compete with each other off the field," said freshman Nate Sutton.

Getting his team prepared through technology does not benefit his coaching staff for this year, but helps the player be ready for their future.

"When we send guys to the next level, we want to help them be ready and have no drop off from here to there," White said. "We send our players to play, and them knowing how this technology works and keeps

them dialed up will make it one less thing to worry about."

Monarch players see the potential in this technology. Most four-year schools use tech to get ready for game day, so starting now gives the monarch players a little head start.

"The technology we use now can help us a lot in the next level," Delgado said. "They prepare us for what we're going to expect at a bigger program. And I think the coaches are doing a great job of preparing us for the future."

Valley has seen their physical and mental hard work pay off for them already, as they got their first win of the season 22-14 against Victory Valley College last weekend.

"We made fewer mistakes than they did. We will see the biggest jump of the season from week one to week two," White said.

Serena Williams draws attention to the sexism that plagues women's sports

It's not a shock when tennis players are overcome with anger and smash their rackets, but when Serena Williams does it she faces consequences.

MONSERAT SOLIS
CO-EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Serena Williams drew attention to the inequality women face in sports after tennis umpire penalized her for smashing her racket during the US Open Finale—when male players have been throwing tantrums for years without facing the same consequences.

Women in all sports have received criticism for how they act, how they dress, and how they play. Serena Williams, who was ranked no.1 in women's singles on eight separate occasions from 2002 and 2017 and is probably the most well-known athlete, was penalized after the umpire thought she was getting coached from the sidelines and for smashing her racket on the court. While men are popularized for their outbursts on the court, Williams was deducted a game point by the umpire.

Billie Jean King, who revolutionized women's tennis, came to Williams' defense, calling her penalty a "double standard" over Twitter. King has spoken out and taken a stance on sexism in sports before, calling out how women are described as "emotional" while men are praised for being "outspoken" for the same actions.

Roger Federer, who has 30 men's single Grand Slam titles, is known for being aggressive and moody on the court, and is one of the many male players who have thrown and smashed their rackets. Male players are constantly showing their emotions on the court but never labeled as emotional. Instead they are rewarded and seen as strong while women are seen as weak.

During this year's U.S. Open

Juan Del Potro argued with the umpire over a challenge and Del Potro never received a penalty. Even after the match point was lost, Del Potro was seen arguing and disrespecting the umpire. Many male tennis players have had far worse altercations with umpires, and none of them have ever been penalized.

This issue is bigger than just Williams because women in all sports have been treated differently than their male counterparts. In 2014, the US men's soccer team was awarded \$35 million by FIFA after losing to Germany while the women's team only received 5 percent of that for their Cup win in 2015.

Women in sports have witnessed discrimination from their own organizations and this is not fair. This biased treatment has been happening since women fought to be athletes and to be taken seriously but as these situations keep occurring, women have to keep fighting for the respect they deserve and it is sad.

From being paid less to not having the same opportunities as men, it is all the same, and as time goes by we can say times are changing but actions speak louder than words. Williams was discriminated against because she is a woman, and it is clear women are at a disadvantage in any field.

"I am going to continue to fight for women and to fight for us... this is outrageous," said Williams during a conference meeting.

Sports organizations should treat all athletes fairly and stop the double standard. Williams can continue to fight for women's equality like King did in the 70's but women will continue to be penalized until organizations fix their sexist stance in sports.

Nike stands with Colin Kaepernick

Colin Kaepernick becomes the new face of Nike following his leave of the NFL.



PHOTO COURTESY OF | NIKE

KAEPERNICK-Nike released inspirational new ad with Colin Kaepernick, whose silent protests on the field stirred controversy.

MEGAN JACKSON
NEW EDITOR

Many corporations make marketing decisions based on the bottom line, but Nike's brave decision to feature Colin Kaepernick in its latest campaign proves that the bottom line is only part of the equation.

Kaepernick was a bold choice for the brand because he has become a leading figure in player protests against racial injustice and police brutality by sitting and eventually kneeling during the National Anthem during the 2016 NFL season. The free-agent also filed a lawsuit against the league claim-

ing they were colluding to keep the former San Francisco 49ers quarterback out of the NFL for the past two years.

Along with Nike's motto "just do it," the campaign features a close-up, black and white photo of Kaepernick covered with the words: "Believe in something. Even if it means sacrificing everything."

For Kaepernick, he chose to protest the important social issue over his professional career. He did, in fact, sacrifice a lot. In salary alone, Kaepernick sacrificed millions of dollars a year.

The ad caused an uproar of hate on social media, with some burning their shoes and others cutting the swoosh off their Nike jerseys. In fact, President Trump

tweeted, "Just like the NFL, whose ratings have gone WAY DOWN, Nike is getting absolutely killed with anger and boycotts. I wonder if they had any idea that it would be this way," said Trump. "As far as the NFL is concerned, I just find it hard to watch, and always will, until they stand for the FLAG!"

But it doesn't mean the protests or the tweet will tarnish Nike's \$91 billion dollar empire. According to Frank Cappelleri, chief market technician at Instinet, Nike stock fell about 5.5 percent from its August high to last week's low, which was more than the major averages, but not that out of character for Nike.

NFL Executive Vice President Jocelyn Moore recently

spoke to Fox News about the campaign. "The National Football League believes in dialogue, understanding and unity. We embrace the role and responsibility of everyone involved with this game to promote meaningful, positive change in our communities," said Moore. "The social justice issues that Colin and other professional athletes have raised deserve our attention and action."

Being joined by Nike, Kaepernick no longer stands alone in his protests against social injustice. He continues carrying the weight of the biggest athletic brand sponsoring major athletes and organizations along with Nike's mass of dedicated supporters.

The Hot Zone

Men's Water Polo

Water Polo starts the season with a 5-0 mark.

Next match is Sept. 20

Women's Water Polo

Women undefeated with 2-0 record.

Next match is Sept. 19

Women's Soccer

Women perfect at 5-0-0.

Next match is Sept. 14